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## COTTON STATUS HAS DECLINED

Government Figures Shows Further Deterioration Since Last Decline.

### AVERAGE FOR JULY 74.9

Cordition Was 77 in the June Report. Attorney General Moody Talks of Leak Scandal Investigation.

The following report on the condition of the cotton crop was issued by the statistical board of the department of agriculture in Washington at noon Thursday:

"The crop estimating board of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture finds from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the bureau that the average condition of cotton on July 25 was 74.9, as compared with 77 on June 25, 1905; 91.6 on July 25, 1904; 79.7 on July 25, 1903, and a ten year average of 82.6. By states the averages are:

"Texas 71, Georgia 82, Alabama 79, Mississippi 69, South Carolina 79, Arkansas 68, Louislana 66, North Carolina 80, Indian Territory 82, Tennessee 80, Oklahoma 83, Florida 85, Missouri 85, Virginia 78."

Attorney General Moody returned to the capital Thursday morning and was at his desk in the department of justice during the remainder of the day. In speaking of the reasons for his return at this time, he said that there were several matters of considerable importance, which required his presence, among them being that of a successor to Mr. Cotton, who recently was appointed United States district judge in Oregon in place or Judge Bellinger, deceased. Mr. Cutton had accepted the position, but for business and private reasons has withdrawn his acceptance.

There are several other matters of trust litigation which require his actention. In answer to an inquiry concerning the cotton leak investigation the attorney general said that he had been in close touch with the investigation from its origin, but desired a further personal conference with District Attorney Beach.

Mr. Moody said that Mr. Beach was quite able to properly conduct the investigation without any assistance from him or any one, but that as this was a matter of personal house cleaning of the administration it seemed fitting that the head of the department of justice should keep in close touch should matters assume a perit and the president and with the country.

The attorney general had a conference with Mr. Beach during the day. The district attorney said that the grand jury now investigating the cotton leak would take a recess until the 15th. He explained that the adjournment of the grand jury was in consequence of the fact that additional evidence was expected from distant points which could not be obtained before that time.

#### CITY MARSHAL OF BAXLEY SLAIN.

Shot Dead While Trying to Stop Street Fight--Murderer Lodged in Jail,

Mike Aspenwall, city marshal, was assassinated at Baxley, Ga., Thursday, by A. J. Chestnut. Chestnut was pursued by twenty-five armed citizens, who left their places of business to prevent his escape.

He fired twice on his pursuers, and was shot through his left side with a rifle ball. He was lodged in jail. He said "blind tiger liquor has brought me to this." Chestnut had a street fight with one Luke White, when City Marshaj Aspenwall interfered and the shooting followed.

### FEVER FATALITIES GROW.

Hot Weather Increases Mortality in New Orleans -- Row Between Two Governors is Unabated.

The yellow fever record in New Orleans for Wednesday up to 6 p. m. was as follows:

> New cases . . . . . . 32 Total cases to date. . 378 Deaths . . . . . . 11 Total deaths to date . 79

The situation showed no material change during the day. Of the deaths four were in the Emergency hospital, four in the original districts and three in the Charity hospital.

The impending hostilities between the states of Louisiana and Mississippi over the invasion by Governor Vardaman's quarantine mosquito fleet and the armed guards stationed at Pearl river, is not improved by the statement given out by Governor Vardaman in Jackson, after his return from the coast, where he went to investigate the situation.

Both Captain Bosticl: and General Perilliat submitted reports as to the result of their investigations. Both dispatched officers to the scene on Wednesday, and they learned enough to confirm the first reports of the armed invasion and the arbitrary action of the Mississippi patrol boats in closing Louisiana waters to Louisiana fishermen. The Rigolets drawbridge, on which the Louisville and Nashville rallroad crosses, is five miles from the Mississippi line, and distinctly in Louisiana Territory, and does not even come under the territory now in dispute before the supreme court of the United States. It was found that a man named Blunt, claiming to be in charge of the Mississippi patrol in those waters, had stationed himself on the bridge, armed with two shot guns, and forbade the bridgekeeper from opening the draw to allow boats to pass out from Lake Pontchartrain into Lake Borgne.

There are eighteen boats now at Ship Island, which were captured by the patrol and towed by the revenue cutter Winona to Ship Island quarantine station. It is claimed that every one of these vessels was taken in Louisiana waters.

Another complication has developed in the same connection. The British thip Bray Head of the Head Line, after completing her cargo in New Orleans, stopped at the Mississippl side of Lake Borgne canal to get a deckload of timber, but the Mississipp; boats absolutely refused to allow a tug to go to the mouth of Pearl river to get the barge and rafts. The Bray Head had to leave without the cargo, and the agents say the owners will lay the matter before the British government.

Governor Vardaman went to the coast Wednesday to investigate the trouble, and on returning to Jackson, gave out one of his characteristic interviews, as follows:

"This whole business is much ade sonal responsibility with reference to about nothing. I have received a telegram from Governor Blanchard saying that the Mississipppi quarantine guard had entered upon the territory of Louisiana. I wired Governor Blanchard that this was without my knowledge or order and that I should see to it that it was not repeated. All of the talk reminds me of some of the scenes portrayed by Cervantes in that famous romance, 'Don Quixote.' I repeat that I shall not permit the people of Louisiana to violate the quarantine regulations promulgated by the state board of health of Mississippi. It is my purpose to increase the force of the grards and to double their vigilance. If the fever gets into Mississippi Madam Stegomyia will have to fly

### GIFT FOR EDUCATION OF MINISTERS.

Retired Wealthy Clergyman Donates \$50,-

000 to Methodist Church. The Rev. H. T. Besse, a retired minister of San Jose, Cal., has donated \$50,000 to the Wesleyan Methodist church for educating ministers and missionaries at the Wesleyan seminary at Houghton, N. Y. Ten years ago he gave \$40,000 for similar purposes. A university may be founded with part of the money.

#### CHILD LABOR BILL PASSED

In Georgia House by Decisive Vote of 103 to 62 -- Measure in Now Up to the Senate.

By the unexpectedly large vote of 103 to 62, the Georgia house of representatives Thursday passed the child labor bill by Mr. Bell of Fulton and after the announcement of the result the measure was, on motion of the author, ordered immediately transmitted to the senate.

The galleries, crowded to the doors with ladies and others who had manifested a deep interest in the debate, gave vent to their approval of the house's action in loud and prolonged applause. Frequently during the debate similar outbursts of applause greeted eloquent expressions in behalf of the bill, and once or twice Speaker Slaton threatened to clear the galleries unless order was maintained. But the ladies were bound to have their way, though they had the assistance of others in giving vent to these expressions of approval of the earnest sentiments spoken in behalf of the measure.

Practically all the amendments offered were defeated with the exception of one offered by the committee permitting children under 12 years to be employed only when their fathers are "totally" dependent upon them, the worl totally being inserted. Following is the text of the bill as passed

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Georgia, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same. That no child under the age of 12 years shall be employed at labor in or about any factory or manufacturing establishment within this state, unless a widowed mother or aged or disabled father is totally dependent upon the labor of such child, or in case a child is an orphan and has no other means of

"No child under the age of 10 years shall be so employed under any cir-

"Sec. 2. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid. That it shall be unlawful for any owner, superintendent or other person acting in behalf of a factory or manufacturing establishment to hire or to employ any such child unless there is first provided and placed on file in the office of such an employer, an affidavit signed by the parent or guardian or person standing in parental relation thereto. certifying to the age and date of birth of said child. Any person knowingly furnishing a false certificate of the age of such child shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

"Sec. 3. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesald, That no child under 14 years of age shall be employed or labor in any factory or manufacturing establishment within this state between the hours of 7 p. m. and 6

"Sec. 4. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the 1st of September, 1907, no child under 14 years of age shall be employed at labor in any factory or manufacturing establishment in this state unless he or she can write his or her name and simple sentences in the English language.

"Sec. 5. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid. That any person corporation or representative of such corporation who violates any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed 11:22a guilty of a misdemeanor.

"Sec. 6. Be it further enacted by the 12:143 authority aforesaid. That all acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act, are hereby repaled."

#### THEFT CHARGE LEADS TO TRAGEDY.

Deadly Duel Fought By Officials of a Padu celi lumber Concorn.

At Paducah, Ky., Thursday, H. H. Loving, president of the Kentucky Mili and Lumber company, shot and killed H. A. Rose, who, until Wednesday night, had been president of the concern. It is said that Rose had been selling lumber by the car load in Ch'cago and keeping the money, and this resulted in the tragedy.

#### MORROCO SHYS AT CONFERENCE.

Sultan Comes to Conclusion That Such a Gathering in Unnecessary.

Information reaching official quarters in Paris shows that the sultan of Morocco, who first proposed an international conference, now fears the discussion among the nowers will result in the dismemberment of his empire. He therefore called an assembly of chieftains, who formally decided that outside interference in Moroccan affairs was not necessary. The sultan has since shown opposition to the holding of a conference.

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